

# The Times-Dispatch.

PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY AT THE  
TIMES-DISPATCH BUILDING.

BUSINESS OFFICE, NO. 916 EAST MAIN STREET.

Entered January 27, 1903, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Washington Bureau: No. 501 Fourteenth Street, Northwest Corner Pennsylvania Avenue.

Manchester Bureau: Carter's Drug Store, No. 1102 Hull Street.

Petersburg Headquarters: J. Beverley Harrison's, No. 109 North Sycamore Street.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH is sold at 2 cents a copy.

The SUNDAY TIMES-DISPATCH is sold at 5 cents a copy.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH, including Sunday, in Richmond and Manchester, by carrier, 12 cents per week or 50 cents per month.

THE TIMES-DISPATCH, Richmond, Va.

BY MAIL	One Year.	Six Months.	Three Months.
Daily, with Sun.	\$5.00	\$2.50	\$1.25
Daily without Sun.	3.00	1.50	.75
Sun. edition only.	2.00	1.00	.50
Weekly (Wed.)	1.00	.50	.25

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TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1905.

## Annexation.

The interest which the people of Richmond feel in the subject of annexation was again manifested last night in a largely attended meeting at the old Bijou Theatre under the direction of the Joint Committee on Progress. Stirring addresses were made by representative citizens, and a committee was appointed to appear before the Council Committee on Annexation this evening and urge that the lines proposed by the Progress Committee be adopted. We hope that citizens generally who believe in Greater Richmond will show their interest by attending the meeting to-night and holding up the hands of the committee appointed at last night's meeting.

Washington is our most beautiful city, and the reason is not hard to find. Washington was planned before it was built.

Suppose Richmond had not been built; suppose there were no city here to-day, and experts with the gift of prophecy were here to plan the city which they knew would be, what course would they pursue? They would lay out streets and avenues, parks and beauty spots; they would establish building lines; they would not permit lot-owners to jam their houses against the sidewalks, nor other houses to be built in the back yards, and front on the side streets. They would take in sufficient territory to provide an abundance of room; they would prohibit unsanitary crowding.

But Richmond has in a great measure been already made, and we must take her as she is. We cannot pull the buildings down and put them up again on different plans. So far as the city is already built it must stand practically as it is, but Richmond is not a finished town. Richmond is growing, and will continue to grow. The question which now agitates us, therefore, is how far the city authorities shall exercise control over the building districts of the future. Shall we allow our suburbs to grow up as an old field grows up in weeds, or shall we annex the territory of the future and see that it is built up according to an intelligent plan? We must look to the future. It is not so much a question whether or not it will pay at this time to take in suburban territory, although The Times-Dispatch believes that it is good business policy right now to expand. But it is absolutely necessary in the interest of health and morals that the municipal exercise control over the suburban districts. Sooner or later all the land now included within the proposed lines must be part and parcel of the city of Richmond and it should be incorporated before it is built up.

## The Missouri Triumph.

The election of Colonel William Warner to be United States senator from Missouri is a triumph for better politics. Colonel Warner is a war veteran with a good record, and a leading lawyer of Kansas City. He has had many positions of trust. He was at different times mayor of Kansas City, prosecuting attorney, United States district attorney, national commander of the Grand Army and was offered the position of chief of the Pension Bureau under President Roosevelt. He seems to be well fitted for the position. He was opposed by Thomas K. Niedringhaus, who was the candidate of the politicians, and whose candidacy was based on the plea that in the late presidential campaign he collected from the breweries a large sum of money which was used in carrying the State of Missouri for Roosevelt. He had been a "party worker"; he had done the party service and as a reward he claimed the highest office within the gift of the Legislature. It is good to know that the "deal" fell through. It is good to know that this political bargain, under which an office was to be delivered in return for so much money collected and paid into the campaign fund, was not consummated. Thank heaven for every triumph over that species of political corruption.

## A Sensible Movement.

A large church meeting of negroes was held in Norfolk on Sunday last to consider ways and means of reducing criminal tendencies among negro boys. Several colored preachers discussed the subject and a committee was appointed to

report a plan of action to another meeting to be held hereafter.

That is the best movement we have seen among the colored men of Virginia for many a day. All things considered, the negro has done pretty well. In the days of slavery the negro youth were well drilled in lessons of obedience, morals and manners, and hence it was that negro slaves were amiable and tractable and did not revolt when the war was on, and when they might easily have banded together against the women and children of the white race. It was their training. But since the war comparatively few negro boys have had good moral training, and many of them have been brought up without any training whatever. They have not been taught the great lesson of self-control. They have been brought up for the most part without restraining influences, save such as the schools and the laws have given. Reared in this way, the surprise is that the negroes are not worse.

The leaders among the colored race can do no better than devise ways and means of training the negro youth in lessons of obedience, manners, morals and good citizenship. The negro is not naturally bad; he is naturally amiable and easily influenced for good. If the negro youth be trained as they should be, the bad negro will gradually disappear, and with the disappearance of the bad negro, the negro problem will largely solve itself.

## Mr. Swanson's Denial.

The Times-Dispatch has received the following statement from Hon. Claude A. Swanson, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor:

Editor Times-Dispatch, Richmond, Va.: Dear Sir—I have been informed by some friends that some of my political enemies are circulating the report that I knew of, and was concerned in, the issuance of a circular regarding the amount of taxes paid by Mr. Willard to the State of Virginia, as published in a recent issue of your paper.

I desire to say that this report is absolutely false, and can have originated only with my enemies for the purpose of misrepresenting me and prejudicing my candidacy. I had nothing whatever to do with the issuance of such circular, and have not the remotest idea by whom it was issued. I have never seen any of the circulars, nor have I seen a person who has received one. In all the years that I have been in politics, and I have conducted many large and highly contested campaigns, I never issued a circular, nor do I approve of their issuance.

I desire to say further that if I shall at any time make any statement concerning the candidacy of my opponents these shall be made in public addresses to the people, openly and frankly, and I would prefer in the presence of those concerned. And in this connection I wish to say that I shall conduct my campaign on the basis of the highest morality, and I shall not permit lot-owners to jam their houses against the sidewalks, nor other houses to be built in the back yards, and front on the side streets. They would take in sufficient territory to provide an abundance of room; they would prohibit unsanitary crowding.

CLAUDE A. SWANSON.  
Washington, D. C., March 18, 1905.

There has been no intimation on my part that Mr. Swanson was a party to this underhand attack upon Captain Willard, and we should never believe such a thing of him without the absolute proof. If any candidate for office in Virginia has been dodging the tax collector, has been making false returns or otherwise cheating the State out of her just tribute, it would be entirely proper for his opponents to make the fact known, provided the charge should be made direct by a responsible man and the accused be confronted with the charge and given the opportunity to deny or explain. But for a candidate to circulate anonymously a charge of this character, or of any character, against another candidate, whether false or true, and especially if false or misleading and unfair, would be a means of warfare in a Democratic contest so mean and cowardly as to bring its author into public contempt and scorn and to render him unworthy the support of decent Democrats. Every man despises a sneak and the methods of a sneak. Every brave man despises the assassin and all his ways.

This is a family affair, a friendly contest within the party, and the campaign should be conducted in such a way as to promote good fellowship and exalt the course of Virginia Democracy. It should be the honorable ambition of every candidate, whether successful or not, to show by his conduct that he is worthy of party honors.

Mr. Swanson's card has the right ring about it, and it is to be hoped that every candidate within the party for the highest honors as well as for the minor honors, will follow the rule of conduct which Mr. Swanson proclaims.

## Greater Pittsburg.

All opposition to the "Greater Pittsburg" plan has now disappeared, and Pittsburg and Allegheny City will now become one town. The consolidation of Pittsburg and Allegheny will create a municipality having a population of 451,512, according to the census of 1900. In that year the population of Pittsburg was 221,016. Allegheny, 120,856. The consolidated city will rank next to Baltimore, which in the census year had a population of 508,557. Greater Pittsburg will be the sixth in rank among American municipalities. The order in the census year are Greater New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Boston and Baltimore.

Consolidation is the order of the day. Now for Greater Richmond.

The District Attorney of New York has brought suit aggregating \$37,000 against the American Tobacco Company and all subsidiary concerns for alleged violation of the lottery laws of that State.

"The suits," says a New York correspondent, "are the outgrowth of the growing contest organized by the concerns. About a year ago the companies offered \$125,000 to those who made the nearest guesses to the number of cigars of certain brands which would be taxed within a stated period of time by the Federal government. Later they offered \$100,000 to those who made the nearest guesses of the actual number of votes cast for the winner of the last presidential election.

"According to the section of the penal

code under which the suits are brought, even though the prices have been paid, the companies must again pay the money. This time to the county of New York should the district attorney win the suits."

What a splendid advertisement that will be of the wares of the American Tobacco Company!

After a lapse of more than twenty years, during which time she has never spoken a word above a whisper, a Brooklyn woman has completely recovered the use of her voice, and now speaks with perfect distinctness and freedom. Think of a woman twenty years behind in talk, and her talkableness now in good working order! She may not be able to make it up, but she'll keep the apparatus busy.

Judge Parker, who was a candidate for the presidency, is said to be coining money in the practice of law, having a long list of rich clients. It pays sometimes to be a candidate, even if you don't get elected.

The rain that we now have on hand is very good for the folk who need it to lay much dust, but the Virginia farmer, with his plowing behind hand, does not want any more rain this month.

Yesterday, two days after celebrating his sixty-eighth birthday, your Uncle Grover Cleveland started south on an extended hunting expedition. And now Dr. Osler, what have you to say to that?

It is not true, as currently reported, that the alarm of fire in the ten hundred Main Street block yesterday was caused by red hot editorials in the sanctum of Editor Pitt, of the Religious Herald.

The scientists are still discovering spots on the sun, but old Sol goes right on shining, and in a way that promises old Virginia farmers splendid returns for this year's efforts.

A London judge has recently decided that \$1.50 is enough for a man to pay for his wife's Easter bonnet. Richmond judges will please get on to the English law as now declared.

Up in Delaware they give a man ten lashes for stealing a fish. If he steals several millions of dollars they try to elect him to the United States Senate.

George Ade has gone to Japan, and the Mikado is watching him to see that he does not put up any of his fairy tales on the ruler of the yellow jackets.

The Southern ducks, deer and other game had better hunt shelter. Your Uncle Grover left Princeton last night for his spring raid.

"Kurapatkin is making for Harbin," says a belated dispatch. The Czar amends by saying St. Petersburg is his destination.

The new commander of the Russian armies in Manchuria should be supplied with a few flying machines.

## The Richmond Blues.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: I have received a private letter describing the great inaugural parade, which says:

"The Virginia troops made a fine showing and the Richmond Blues created almost a sensation by their splendid marching and showy uniforms. They attracted much attention and the West Point cadets of the Annapolis midshipmen."

I thought the Governor of North Carolina was the finest looking Governor in the procession, but my family wouldn't have it that way, and said Governor Montague was all right if he did have red hair. This comment on Virginia soldiers from an impartial judge is a source of great gratification to me, and I am sure it will be appreciated by all Virginians.

WILLIAM H. STEWART.  
Portsmouth, Va.

## Pollard's Code.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Several days ago I saw in your paper an editorial article commending Pollard's Annotated Code of Virginia, and giving glowing testimonials to this work from a number of prominent Virginia lawyers. Since then I have read the book, and have never been so favorably impressed by any work of the kind. I thought the Governor of North Carolina was the finest looking Governor in the procession, but my family wouldn't have it that way, and said Governor Montague was all right if he did have red hair. This comment on Virginia soldiers from an impartial judge is a source of great gratification to me, and I am sure it will be appreciated by all Virginians.

I have heard it stated as probable that the next State Legislature would adopt this work as the Code of the State, and while I agree with the praise which has been given to it, I sincerely hope that this will not be done by the Legislature, for several reasons, which, it seems to me should be decisive of the matter.

In the first place, our statute law is in a very chaotic condition and should be thoroughly revised and harmonized before a new Code is issued. The present Code of 1887 is entirely conformable to the requirements of the new Constitution. In many instances new statutes have been enacted without repealing the old ones which they were intended to supersede. Mr. Pollard, of course, had no authority to repeal the old statutes and his result is that a great many statutes are found in his book which might be repealed or amended by the Legislature, but which he has no power to do. The result is that the Code of 1887 is but a single volume, containing less than 1,200 pages. This I submit is a decided advantage in favor of the Code of 1887. The Code of 1887 was revised by Judges Burke, Staples and Riley, three of the most eminent judges of the State, and the result is a Code which is the work of three prominent judges of the State.

The second objection which I would urge against the adoption of this work, admirable as it is, as the Code of the State, is the price. It was stated in the editorial above referred to, that the producers of Pollard's Code cost

## Armour's Extract of Beef.

Enter—Armour's Extract.  
Exit—Cooking Troubles.

Instantly and easily prepared in a great variety of tempting ways.

Our cook book "Culinary Wrinkles" mailed free.

Armour & Company Chicago



only \$20.00, while the production of the Code of 1887 cost \$100.00. This may be true. But the cost of the Code is not the only thing to be considered. The Code of 1887 is a work of great value, and it is a pity that it should be replaced by a work of less value.

STICKLEY TUCKER.  
Amherst, Va., March 15, 1905.

## Operation of the Mann Law.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—The Powhatan countyman expresses the sentiments well of the people in regard to the Mann law, and in this connection the Legislature appointed a committee to investigate the operation of the Mann law as judges. I will give you what happened at this place last fall. Some distiller came over here and got the consent of the leading people of this neighborhood for him to run a distillery in two miles of this place. It was impressed on the distiller, if he endorsed his petition, he had to run a clean still, and there was to be no drinking there. If he had any drinking at his still, he would be broken up at once. So the business people of this place endorsed him, and the law was put in force. Mr. G. A. Saunders came to me and said:

"I have endorsed that distillery petition, and I want it," for the railroad or the express office collects \$50 from the people of this county for the Mann law, and the distiller county expresses on whiskey from other points, which he wanted stopped. Mr. Saunders is no drinking man, and did a business last year at this place of \$50,000 in lumber. Now, when our court come off and the distiller's petition to run the distillery was brought before the judge with all its endorsement, it was not noticed at all by Judge Barksdale, as there were three or four anti-saloon men present who opposed it.

Now, I want to say that the parties that endorsed the distillery pays \$50 in taxes when the distillery is run, and I suppose, there is one anti-saloon man in forty in the voting people and still "we petty men have to walk under their huge legs and peep about." If they want any whiskey under the Mann law, Forkville, Va.

## Don'ts for the Writer.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Wish to express my appreciation of Mr. Edward B. Wagnan's valuable addition to the Times-Dispatch published under the caption "Don'ts for the Speaker and Writer." I am sure that a great many of the readers of our best Virginia paper will profit by reading it. There are some of your "don'ts" however, in which I cannot agree with you, and in to-day's paper you write of other "don'ts." I am glad to be able to bring me to your notice.

(1) You object to the use of the expression "all." It is true that this phrase like all idioms—defies analysis, but it is certainly not superfluous, except in the case of the word "all" when it is used in the sense of "every." I hear nothing at all" is more emphatic than "I hear nothing of any kind." It is intrusive to "nothing" is substituted by the usage of the very best authorities.

(2) You find him no fault at all—John xviii, 28. God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.—John i, 6.

Now, this no more dishonors you at all. Now, this no more dishonors you at all. Now, this no more dishonors you at all.

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# QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

## Evening Dress.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Please let me know if a Tuxedo dress suit is the proper clothes for a gentleman to wear when he makes a social call on a young lady friend in the evening.

A Tuxedo is quite proper for an evening call.

## Back Taxes.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Please answer in your query column if A sells B a piece of land, B holds deed eight years without recording it. A pays taxes on land; what steps can A take? The land sold joins A.

A has a remedy by warranting B for the amount of taxes paid by him.

## The License Law.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Will you please answer in your Query Column the following questions?

(1) Does the law require a man to take out license to go through the country from house to house buying poultry and eggs, if he ships to a commission merchant to sell for him?

(2) If a license is required in the case, what does it cost and where could it be obtained?

No license is required of you to do what you describe.

## Acknowledgement to Deed.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—If a person signs a deed without acknowledging it before a justice of peace, but at some future time he tells the justice of peace that he did sign his name to the deed, would it be legal for the justice of peace to take an acknowledgment of same in the absence of the party who signed it?

## The Tax Law.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—(1) Are the libraries of clergymen exempt from taxation?

(2) A receives a salary of \$1,000 a year for local work. B receives the same amount, but his work necessitates the expenditure of \$125 per year in railroad fare. What is the difference in taxable income?

(3) We know of no provision in State law exempting clergymen's library from taxation.

(4) If salary of \$1,000 is conditioned upon traveling to different points and the payment of railroad fare necessary to reach these points, then person receiving the salary will not begin to count income until that expense is deducted.

## Deeds to Property.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Will you please answer in your query column how long is a deed good to a piece of land if not recorded? Can it be lawfully recorded after nine years, if the buyer hasn't paid taxes for four years?

A deed as between the parties to it is always binding, although it may never be recorded, and it may be recorded, if properly acknowledged, after any lapse of time.

The recordation of a deed does not give it additional validity, but the recordation is intended as notice to third parties subsequently dealing with the grantor; and the taxes due upon the land do not enter into the